

# State Swine Numbers Up 12%

The number of swine in the state is up a substantial 12 per cent over the past year, chicken numbers are steady but sheep and cattle continue to decline according to the State Crop Reporting Service.

The numbers of hogs and pigs on state farms rose 12 per cent in January, with an inventory of 613,000 head. A year earlier the total number of head was 547,000.

The value of hogs this year is placed at \$228 million, as compared with \$181 million.

Fall pigs totaled 408,000, an

increase of nine per cent above production a year earlier.

Sows farrowed totaled 53,000, a six per cent increase, while pigs per litter increased, from 7.5 in 1968 to 7.7 for the 1969 crop.

Sows to farrow through May of this year have been estimated at 62,000, an increase of nine per cent over the 1969 spring farrowings.

## Sheep Slip

Sheep and lambs at 165,000

head were down three per cent from the 170,000 of a year earlier, a record low.

Inventory value at \$36 million was up 10 per cent from \$32.3 million a year earlier.

## Chickens Steady

Pennsylvania chickens totaled 65 million hens and 839 million pullets of laying age. The figures compared with 63 million hens and 843 million pullets of laying age a year earlier.

A total of 31,000 turkey-breed-

er hens also was reported down 5,000 from a year earlier and 1,000 in 1968.

## Cattle Decline

Inventory of cattle and calves on Pennsylvania farms as of Jan. 1 was 1.78 million head, down one per cent from the 1.8 million of a year earlier.

Nearly all of the decline was in cattle and calves kept for milk which numbered 1.27 million compared with 1.29 of a year ago.

Milk cows two years old and older at 807,000 were one per cent short of the 815,000 of a year earlier.

Heifers one to two years of age being kept as replacement stock were also off one per cent and heifer calves for milk were down three per cent.

Other cattle numbers were about steady — 512,000 compared with 513,000 a year ago.

Total value of all cattle and calves on Jan. 1 was \$445,250,000 compared with \$420,966,000 the previous year.

## Corn Up 34%

Corn production in Pennsylvania soared 34 per cent higher in 1969 than the previous year with 76.2 million bushels produced, according to the State Crop Reporting Service.

The high production was still six per cent less than the record 1967 crop.

Production of corn silage at 4.9 million tons was the second highest on record. Oats production of 22.6 million bushels was 15 per cent less than in 1968 with acreage at a record low.

Hay acreage, at a record low, failed to show production down with yields of 4.15 million tons, and were the highest since 1924. Yield per acre set a record high.

## Hershey TV Auction Slated May 11-16

South Central Pennsylvania's annual television Auction returns to the air in the spring, according to Lloyd Kaiser, General Manager of WITF-TV in Hershey.

The fund raising idea which combines family fun and treasures will be televised on Channel 23 live and in color from the Hershey Community Theater May 11 through 16.

At 5 p.m. until midnight Monday through Friday and from 1 p.m. Saturday until the last item has been auctioned. Last year's sign-off was at 5 a.m. Sunday.

During Auction Week Channel 23 will preempt the entire evening program schedule to conduct more than 50 hours of bidding on an overwhelming array of merchandise.

To bid on any of the hundreds of items which will be offered, the viewer need only pick up his telephone, dial the special toll-free number and present his bid to one of the volunteers manning the special bank of 30 phones.

Prominent area personalities from the fields of government, education, radio and television, sports and the community at large will auction off the merchandise to the highest bidder. Again this year, special segments will be devoted to the art lover, the sports buff and the do-it-yourselfer. And bands, combos and singing groups will perform and have their services auctioned.

The high bidder on each item will be confirmed by a return phone call and will be invited to pick up his merchandise at a special location in Hershey, Lancaster or York.

At this stage of Auction planning, an initial level of high

value donations from area businesses are being sought. Early donors of top value merchandise will receive wide on-going publicity as well as extensive television coverage during the Auction.

Potential donors are urged to inform Channel 23 of their intention to contribute tax deductible items or to call the station for further information.

The Auction and station memberships provide the only funds available to the Station which are uncommitted, and are therefore used in support of the evening program schedule ensuring a steady growth of WITF-TV in its program of community service for South Central Pennsylvania.

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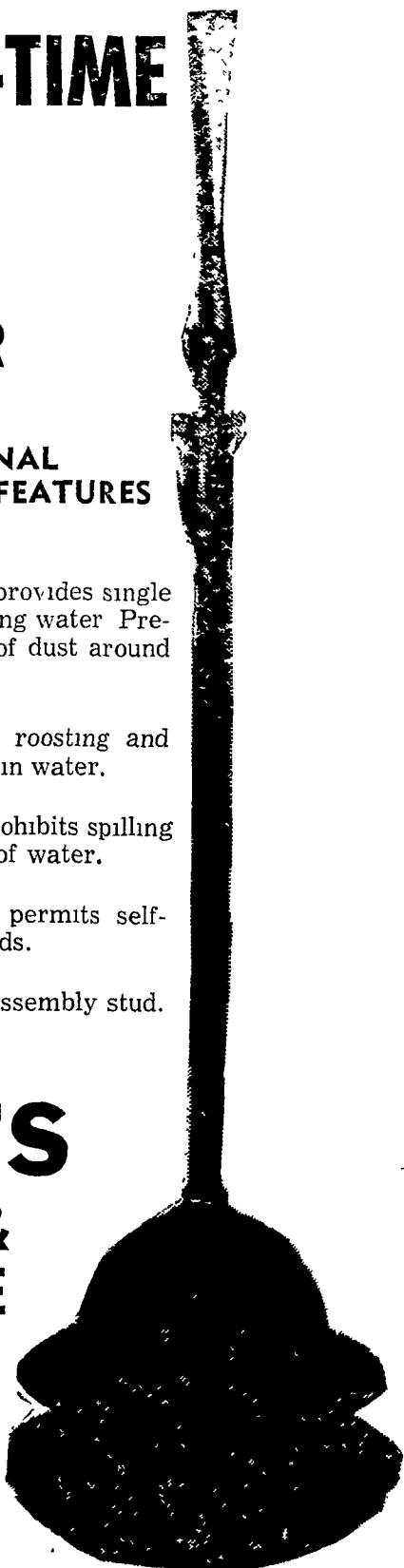
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